4-28-69

Dear Harold,

The copy of COUP arrived last Thursday. Haven't yet had a chance to write back to you before this. ~~xxxxxxx~~ I would suggest you advise the Committee to pack your manuscripts better before they mail them. Actually, it was a miracle the book ever got here. They put it in a regular manila envelope with no reinforcing whatsoever, and sent it book rate, not certified or anything. Upon its arrival here the manila envelope had large rips in two places -- hell, after writing all this I've decided it'd be easier to send you the envelope, so it's in here.

I found, looking through the mss that page 79 is missing.

This morning (monday) my friend took the mss to work and began copying it, she should have it finished by Friday. I'm not sure, but I'm afraid she's only going to be able to make one copy at this time. If that's the case, I can have her make another copy from my copy, probably, in the next few weeks. At any rate, you should have at least your copy back by the end of next week.

Have you seen the UPI story about Kathy Fullmer committing suicide? If not I have it.

The NewYork Times & the NY Post on 4/17 ran stories about the appeal of Malcolm's three accused assassins. It seems that after all this time their appeal has finally been denied. Kind of interesting articles, too; I'll get them copied later this week & send them to you.

I asked an FBI agent, who had contacted me about one of the people who works for me, about that "freeze." I didn't identify to him what it was about, I merely said that a friend of mine who was a newsman had tried to find out about a license number and was told---etc., and I told him this had been done five or six years ago. I then asked him if it were likely that that freeze had been lifted now. For what it's worth, he said -- and he identified that he was saying it off the record -- that if there was a freeze on it there would still and "always" be a freeze on it. Well, along with the Larkin report I asked Corley if he could check on it again -- Hester no longer works there.

Haven't had an opportunity to talk to Vallee's former probation officer. I did find out about Giannis, Giannis & Georges, though; nothing special about them, they're a regular criminal law firm, handle a lot of criminal cases in Chicago.

General Hershey's office bounced my case back to the State Director of Illinois -- so the State Director refused to reconsider, but once again engaged in verbal sidestepping on the question of outside information. So I wrote back to Hershey's office pointing out that not only had the State Director refused to re-review the

case, but once again had sidestpped the true issue. I also implied that if theyxdidn't act I'd go above them. So now I'm waiting.

Can you give me Bernabei's address? Like to drop him a line and find out what's going on up there.

Well, I wrote Simon & Schuster about a novel that I'm now working on, and told them that I had a complete outline for another one that I could write in 6 months if someone would buyx it. To my utter amazement they expressed interest, so now I've gotta rewrite the outline for them.

I queried Random House about the other novel, TWILIGHT OF TALK. I'm going to tryx Random and maybe one other, and if they don't take it then I'll try Grove.

I'llclose for now& put this in the mail tomorrow from the office.

By the way, if you should need to call me I've again had my phone number changed -- the new # is 312-731-5865.

Russ